

**Jet Propulsion Laboratory**  
California Institute of Technology

## NASA Phasemeter Status

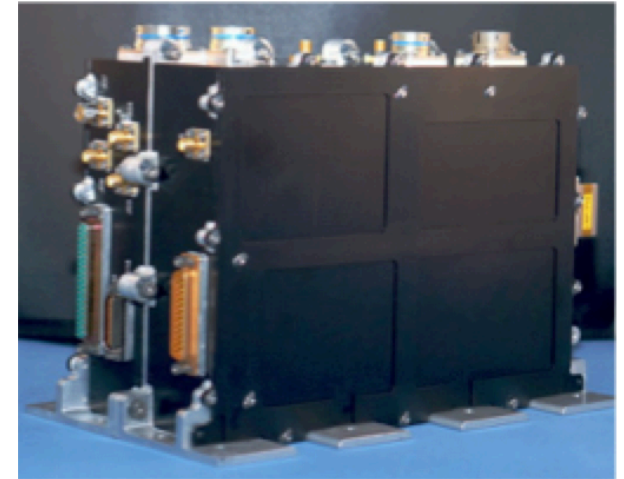
Brent Ware  
for the NASA LISA Team

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# Phasemeter Technology Development Overview

- Role in Flight System
  - **Phasemeter produces science data**,  
Differential Wavefront Sensing (DWS),  
Laser frequency stability control,  
Produces diagnostic telemetry,  
Key part of link acquisition,
  - **Team part of Laser Stabilization effort**
- Development Team
  - PDM: W. Klipstein;  
K. McKenzie, Brent Ware, Jeff Dickson, Bob Spero, Brian Bachman, Chris Woodruff, Jehhal Liu, Sam Francis
- Development Highlights
  - Flight phasemeter demonstrated first inter-spacecraft laser interferometry in space June 2018 (GRACE-FO LRI)
  - **Design Cycle 1 (June 2018 and September 2020 )**  
Produce a scalable version of the GRACE-FO instantiation of the LISA phasemeter working with with Trident Systems Inc. (up to 40 phasemeter inputs)
  - **Design Cycle 2, (Oct 2018 to Sept 2022)**  
targeting more advanced flight implementation,  
Reach Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 6 by 30 September 2022



LRI Flight Phasemeter





# Time Delay Interferometry with the LISA Phasemeter

JPL LISA interferometer testbed built to demonstrate the phasemeter, TDI, and measurement system performance to TRL 4.

PRL **104**, 211103 (2010)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
28 MAY 2010



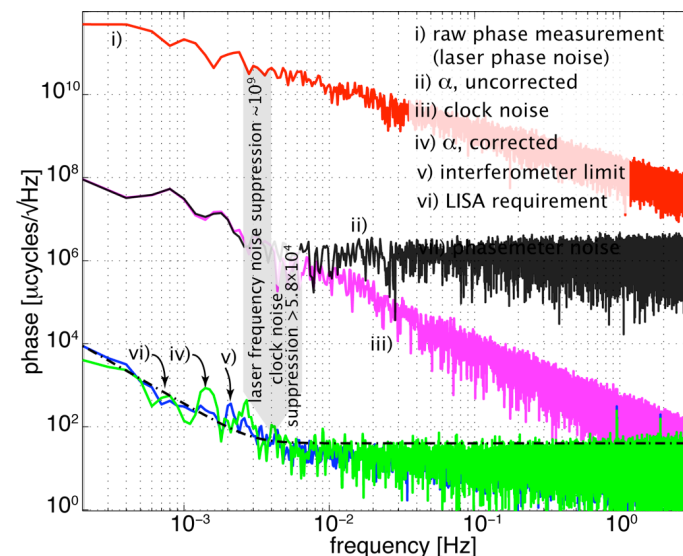
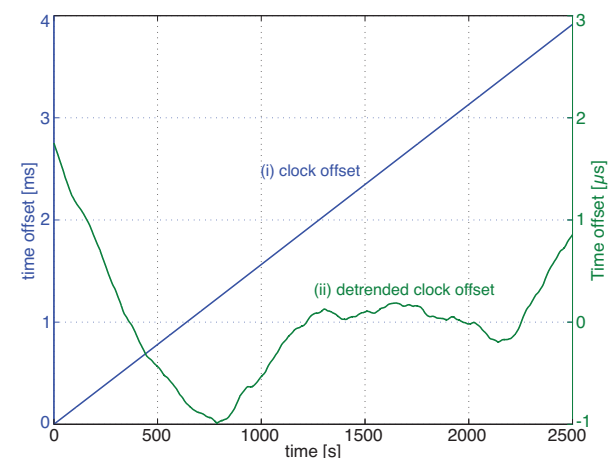
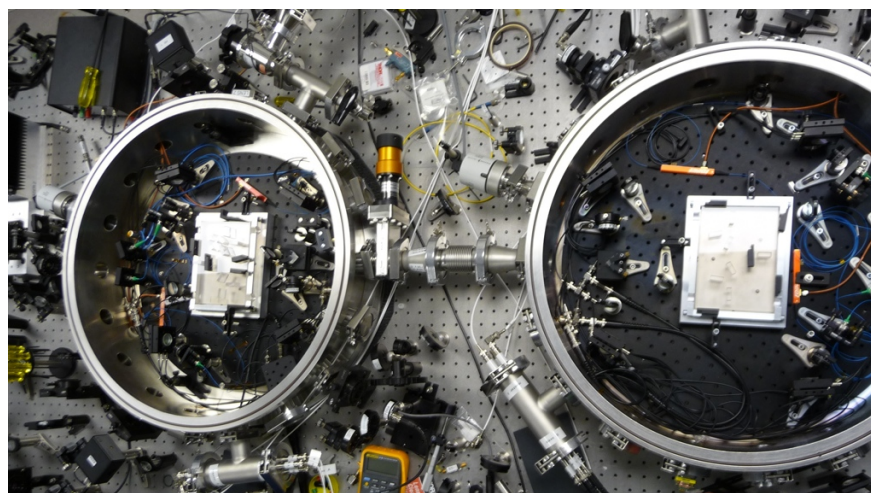
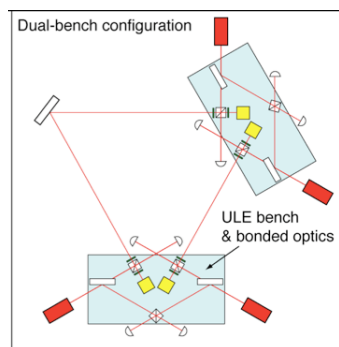
## Experimental Demonstration of Time-Delay Interferometry for the Laser Interferometer Space Antenna

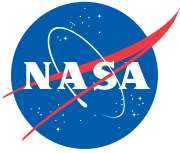
Glenn de Vine,<sup>\*</sup> Brent Ware, Kirk McKenzie, Robert E. Spero, William M. Klipstein, and Daniel A. Shaddock<sup>†</sup>

*Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, USA*

(Received 1 April 2010; published 27 May 2010)

- Frequency noise removal to interferometer displacement limit
- Clock tone transfer via GHz phase modulation
- Stationary arms but changing clock offset  $> 1 \mu\text{s/s}$
- Interpolation of data streams onto common time-base
- Ranging to 20 cm
- PRN data comms between spacecraft (20kbps)





# Trident Phasemeter Progress: Overview

- Trident's Laser Interferometer Space Antenna Multi-Function RF Electronics Unit (LISA-MFREU) is a 7-slot 3U VPX formfactor multi-channel receiver system. The system is composed of:
  - Up to 5 card x 8 phasemeter inputs per card = 40 channels
    - *3 cards x 8 channels is the contracted delivery*
  - JPL phasemeter firmware to be incorporated after delivery
- Manufacturing readiness review complete
  - Backplane card sent for fabrication
  - Mezzanine (analog, ADC) and FPGA cards sent for fabrication
- Functional requirements document updated;
- JPL determining details of phasemeter firmware interface
  - Firmware architecture for LISA phasemeter “base block” in progress.
  - FPGA firmware of trident box is flexible for early testing; may need to streamline

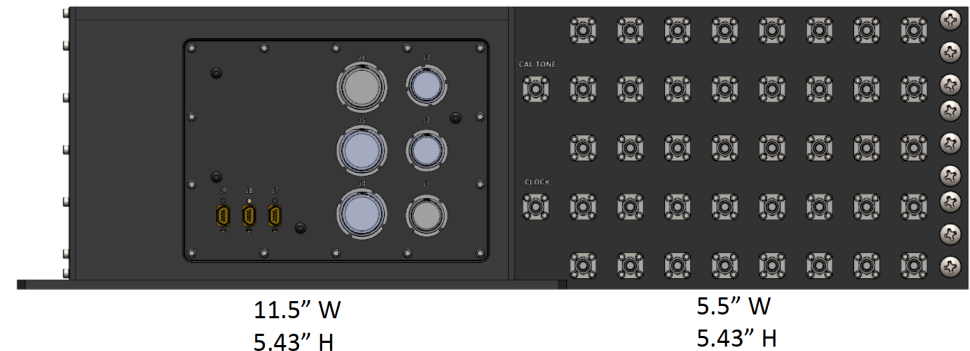


# Trident Phasemeter progress: GSE and testing

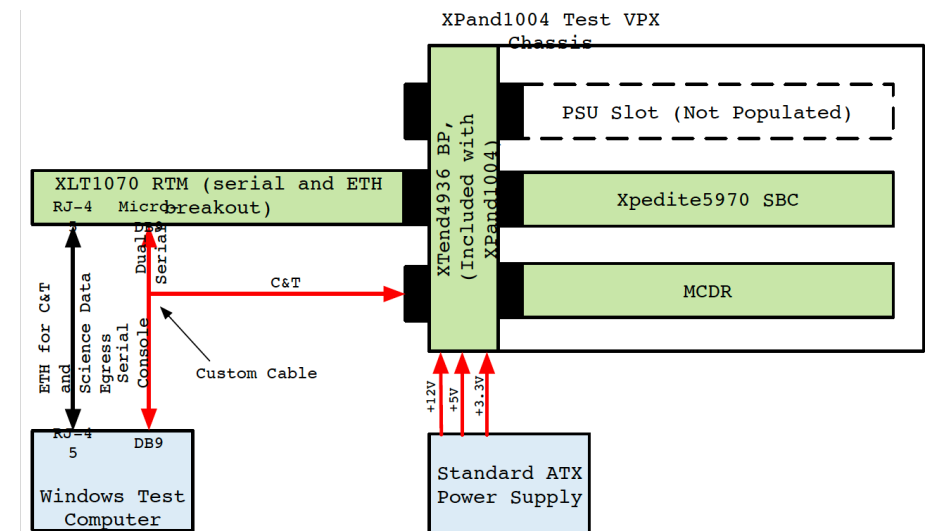


- Test plan documents in place; JPL review complete and comments delivered
  - I&T readiness review (May 2<sup>nd</sup>) with GSFC
- GSE required to test card without chassis on order
  - GSE on track
- Readyng GSE software with Trident data format
  - Trident has delivered data format code; JPL can design/test software tools around this

Rack mount system; 40 channels

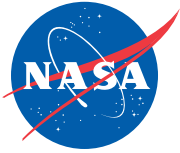


Intermediate GSE for card testing before



# Preparations for Trident Visit

## - May 2<sup>nd</sup>



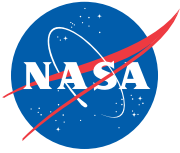
- Attendees : Sridhar Manthripragada, Ira Thorpe, Norman Rioux, Brent Ware, Chris Woodruff, Kirk McKenzie,
- Tentative agenda: 9am Start
  - Meet and Greet
  - Trident/JPL Program overview
  - Look at representative hardware
  - I&T Readiness Review
  - ....
- Location Trident Systems Inc.  
10201 Fairfax Blvd # 300, Fairfax, VA 22030



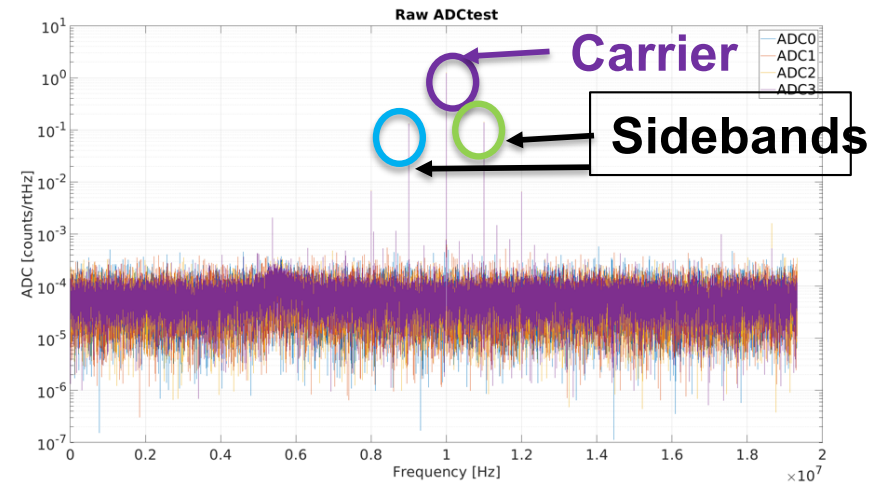
# Phasemeter ASIC Progress Update

- Full ASIC CAD tool set acquired and installed at JPL
- NDAs in progress to access **P**rocess **D**esign **K**it with ON Semiconductor, TSMC, and GlobalFoundries
- Initial phasemeter design synthesized with Cadence demonstration PDK
  - Cadence verification tool check successful
- Design of chip register set and external interface in progress
- First phasemeter chip expected early 2020

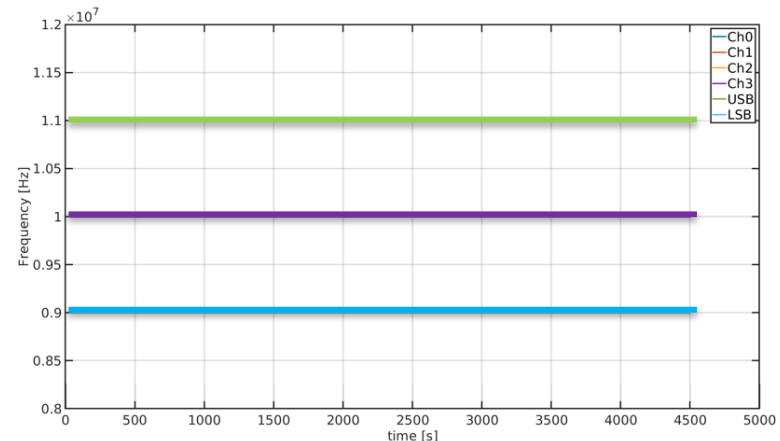
# Multitone tracking on the GRACE FO LRI phasemeter: First step – Functional Demo



- The LRI phasemeter flight software and FPGA code were modified to track the sideband frequencies and output the data in the science phase data packet.
- Test completed on LRI Phasemeter prototype
- Next step is to implement carrier-assisted tracking in the FPGA – needed for low SNR signals



Results show functional demo success



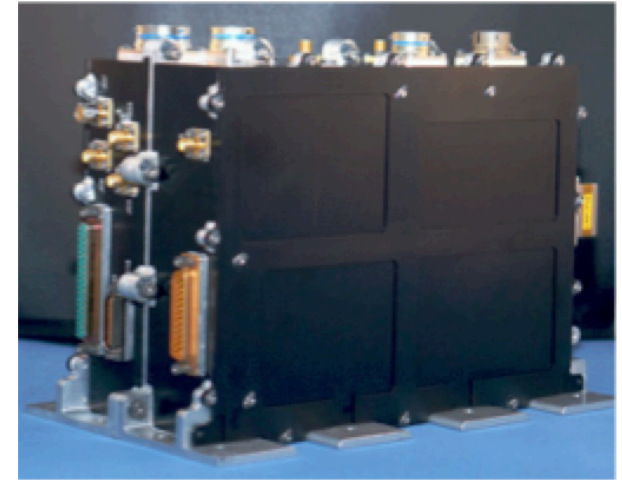


# LRI Flight Phasemeter aka Laser Ranging Processor (LRP)



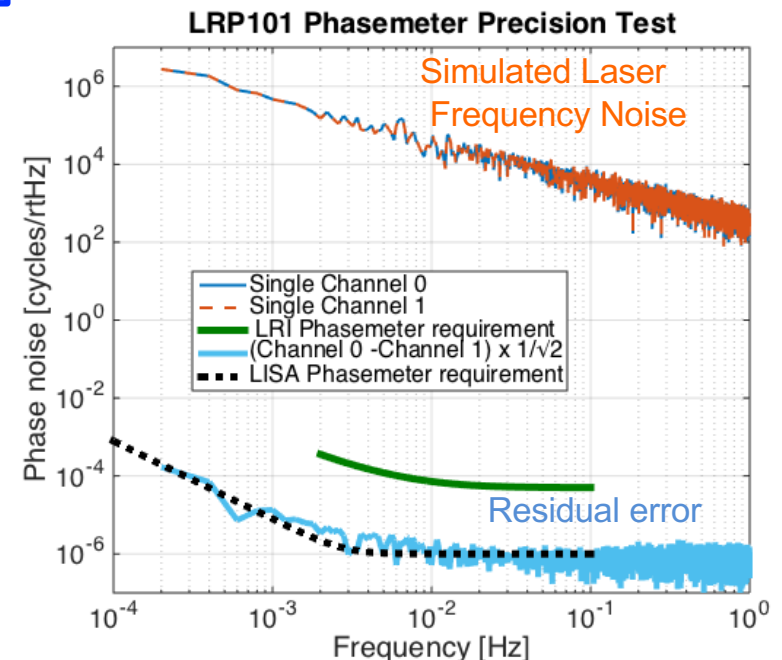
The LRP implements the LISA phase tracking and frequency control algorithms, including:

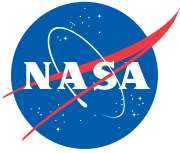
- Phase tracking
- Differential wavefront sensing (and control)
- Laser Phase Locking
- Laser frequency stabilization
- Has only 4 input channels (vs ~34 for LISA)
- Relaxed **precision requirement**, but ~ LISA performance



LRI Flight model Phasemeter

- Same LFN
- Same optical power
- Same signal processing chain
- Same phaselocking
- Same PDH cavity locking
- Similar acquisition strategies



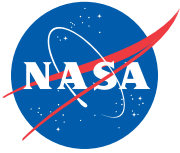


# Plans

- Development Highlights
  - Flight phasemeter demonstrated first inter-spacecraft laser interferometry in space June 2018 (GRACE-FO LRI)
  - **Design Cycle 1 (June 2018 and September 2020)**
    - Produce a scalable version of the GRACE-FO instantiation of the LISA phasemeter working with Trident Systems Inc. (up to 40 phasemeter inputs)
  - Design Cycle 2, (Oct 2018 to Sept 2022) targeting more advanced flight implementation,
    - Reach Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 6 by Q3 2022
- NASA/Ball has developed a flight cavity and frequency stabilization electronics and algorithms applicable to LISA
  - Incorporate lessons learned into slightly modified design for LISA



# Summary



- Theory, simulations, and testbeds by, or funded by, NASA have retired significant LISA TDI, phase measurement, and frequency control risks
- The GRACE Follow-on LRI mission parameters have many similarities to LISA
  - The LRI is a successful and relevant technology demonstrator for LISA
  - Increases maturity of key LISA technologies (for US: advanced phasemeter and Optical Cavity)
  - US/German partnership
- NASA is maturing a LISA flight phasemeter building on the GRACE Follow-on flight phasemeter heritage
  - Design cycle 1 (Trident 40 channel phasemeter chassis) on schedule for delivery 1 December 2019, performance testing July 2019.
  - Design cycle 2 (ASIC) on schedule for early 2020